

**Remarks:**

Applicant submits herewith an amended set of claims together with an RCE, an IDS, and the Declarations of T. Weinstock and W. Tingle to further explain several of the documents being submitted. Pending in this application prior to this amendment were claims 1-23, 35-42 and 47-50. The independent ones of these claims included a limitation relating to a capability of the system to generate action item lists. It is believed by Applicant that the inclusion of this limitation was the basis for the allowance of these claims in the Notice of Allowance dated October 12, 2005 as recited by the Examiner in his reasons for allowance. However, an investigation by Applicant has revealed that a reservation management system that was commercially exploited by Applicant prior to August 18, 1999 also included the ability to generate action item lists. For example, the 1998 ARMS/400 training manual submitted with the 6/30/2005 IDS (reference AS therein) discloses a rental management system operated by Applicant whereby a user can select option "3" from a main menu (see page v of the 1998 ARMS/400 training manual) to generate an action item list (see Option 3 section of the 1998 ARMS/400 training manual at option 3, pages 1-7).

Accordingly, Applicant declines to further prosecute the action item list claims in this application. However, Applicant does not concede that these claims are unpatentable in view of the prior art. Instead, by this Amendment, Applicant focuses the claims of this application toward other patentable features.

By this amendment, claim 1 has been amended, claims 7, 19, and 24-50 have been canceled, and new claims 51-82 have been added. No new matter is present herein. Support for the new and amended claims can be found throughout the application (see, e.g., Figure 1 and corresponding text; page 6, lines 15-26; page 11, lines 27-36; and Exhibit D). The currently pending claims are now claims 1-6, 8-18, 20-23 and 51-82.

Independent claims 1, 56, and 60 recite limitations corresponding to the ability of users of the authorized business partner computers to generate repair facility callback lists, which is disclosed at p. 6, lines 19-26 and Exhibit D of the patent application. Independent claims 51, 72, and 78 recite limitations corresponding to the ability of users of the authorized business partner computers to generate online reports, which is disclosed at page 6, lines 15-19; page 11, lines 27-36 and Exhibit D of the patent application. The prior art, as cited by the Examiner

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and as contained in the materials submitted through the IDSs, fails to disclose, teach or suggest these features.

With respect to claims 1, 56 and 60, Applicant believes that the closest prior art known to Applicant is reflected in Reference AA of the concurrently-submitted IDS (See "ECARS Workbook" at pages 8-1 through 8-19). However, claims 1, 56, and 60 (and the claims dependent therefrom) are patentably distinguishable over these disclosures because this reference teaches that the callback list functionality should be contained within the fulfillment software (ECARS), accessible only to the employees of the rental vehicle service provider and not to third party users. In direct distinction, claims 1, 56, and 60 recite that this functionality is provided in the rental vehicle software program to allow non-employees of the rental vehicle service provider (such as an insurance adjuster) to generate repair facility call back lists.

With respect to claims 51, 72, and 78, our investigation has revealed that Applicant did not first commercially exploit the systems, methods, or software embodied by the combinations recited in claims 51, 72, and 78 until after the critical date. (See Reference AE, "ARMS/400 Update", pp. 1-7 in the concurrently-submitted IDS; see also Reference AR, "1999 ARMS/400 Automated Rental Management System", from the 6/30/2005 IDS). While the reference carries a 1999 date, the claimed combinations were not implemented in a commercial system until after the critical date.

Furthermore, with respect to one of the references cited in the concurrently submitted IDS, Applicant notes that Reference GA (entitled "CIO Magazine 2002 Enterprise Value Awards Application") includes a statement that the "ARMS/Web" system was first piloted to users in July of 1999. As set forth in the enclosed Declaration of Timothy Weinstock, applicant asserts that this statement in Reference GA about the July 1999 pilot is incorrect. (See Declaration of Timothy Weinstock, paragraphs 3 and 7-9). Rather, Applicant asserts that an automated rental management system as described by Figures 1 and 2 of the present patent application was not first used by Applicant or its licensee, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, to create and manage actual rental vehicle reservations until August 20, 1999. (See Declaration of Timothy Weinstock, paragraph 3).

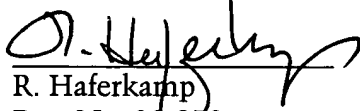
The Declaration of W. Tingle is being submitted to explain two prior art systems known as the Electronic Call Back System (ECBS system) and the Vehicle Messaging System (VMS System) which were implemented for use in conjunction with the predecessor

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reservation management system as ancillary systems to allow for body shops to provide updated status information thereto, first with the ECBS DOS based system and then with an upgraded VMS system having a web browser based user interface. As explained by Mr. Tingle more fully in his Declaration, neither system could be used to create, adjust any of the terms of, or "manage" a vehicle reservation and instead were batch processing programs for remote data entry of body shop vehicle status information into the predecessor reservation management system. As such, these two systems are not seen as impacting on the patentability of the invention as claimed but information is being provided about them for the Examiner's consideration.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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